Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

47050 Generals Hwy. Three Rivers, CA 93271

559 565-3341 phone 559 565-3730 fax

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release: December 24, 2010 **Contact:** Dana M. Dierkes, (559) 679-2866 (cell)

The Public is Invited to Come Play in the Snow at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, but Snow Play Areas are Limited

Three Rivers, CA – The public is invited to come to play in the snow at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, but need to be aware that not all areas are open at this time. Visitors who want to sled at **Kings Canyon National Park** are being directed to the Columbine Snow Play Area or the Cherry Gap area. Park maintenance staff is currently working to try to open the Quail Flat Snow Play Area at the Sequoia National Forest in the near future. Unfortunately, the Big Stump Snow Play Area in Kings Canyon National Park is temporarily closed until further notice due to a main water line break in the bathrooms. Visitors who want to go sledding at **Sequoia National Park** are being directed to the Wolverton Snow Play Area, which reopened yesterday. *Note: No sleds are rented at either park, so plan to bring your own*.

Follow safety guidelines for a fun, safe sledding experience at the park.

- **Avoid collisions:** Do not slide near rocks, trees, branches, or other people. Be aware of other people who may be sledding behind you. Head injuries are common. Slide feet first. Consider wearing a helmet.
- Cold can kill: Dress in layers. Stay warm and dry.
- Watch your children carefully.

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Please be sure to check for road safety updates before your visit, as weather conditions may change, and chains or cables for tires and/or four-wheel drive vehicles may be required for visits to the park. More rain and snow is expected in the next couple of days. For the latest road conditions updates at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, please call our 24-hour recorded weather line at 559-565-3341 (once on the main phone tree, dial 1 then 4 for road conditions). For updates on roads outside the park, please visit the Caltrans website at http://www.dot.ca.gov/.

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